

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method to facilitate automated software  
2 installation on a remote computer over the Internet, comprising:  
3 initializing the remote computer with a custom operating system, wherein  
4 the custom operating system allows access to the remote computer over the  
5 Internet, ~~wherein the custom operating system determines and provides~~  
6 ~~functionality to determine the location of an archive, downloads download the~~  
7 ~~archive, installs install the archived software and restarts restart the remote~~  
8 ~~computer;~~  
9 providing an archive locator to the remote computer, wherein the archive  
10 locator is one of, a uniform resource locator (URL) and a proprietary resource  
11 locator;  
12 requesting an archive from a site specified by the archive locator, wherein  
13 the archive includes an operating system and desired software packages pre-  
14 configured for the remote computer;  
15 downloading the archive to the remote computer from the site specified by  
16 the archive locator; and  
17 re-initializing the remote computer with the operating system and software  
18 packages in the archive.

1           2.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising loading the  
2 custom operating system into the remote computer during installation of the  
3 remote computer.

1           3.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising initializing  
2 the remote computer automatically with the custom operating system when power  
3 is applied to the remote computer.

1           4.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 creating the archive;  
3 storing the archive at a site on the Internet accessible using the archive  
4 locator; and  
5 upon receiving an authorized request for the archive from the remote  
6 computer, downloading the archive to the remote computer.

1           5.       (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein creating the archive  
2 involves:  
3 specifying the operating system and software packages to be included;  
4 installing the operating system and software packages on a configuration  
5 computer compatible with the remote computer;  
6 testing the operating system and software packages on the configuration  
7 computer;  
8 creating a snapshot of the operating system and software packages;  
9 including a configuration file within the snapshot; and  
10 saving the snapshot at the site specified by the archive locator for  
11 download by the remote computer, wherein the snapshot including the  
12 configuration file is the archive.

1           6.       (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the configuration file  
2 includes data for configuring the operating system, network parameters, and  
3 software packages.

1           7.       (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the archive  
2 locator includes providing the archive locator over the Internet.

1           8.       (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the archive  
2 locator includes providing the archive locator in a command line parameter during  
3 initialization of the remote computer.

1           9.       (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing  
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a  
3 method to facilitate automated software installation on a remote computer over  
4 the Internet, the method comprising:  
5           initializing the remote computer with a custom operating system, wherein  
6 the custom operating system allows access to the remote computer over the  
7 Internet, wherein the custom operating system determines and provides  
8 functionality to determine the location of an archive, ~~downloads~~ download the  
9 archive, ~~installs~~ install the archived software and ~~restarts~~ restart the remote  
10 computer;  
11           providing an archive locator to the remote computer, wherein the archive  
12 locator is one of, a uniform resource locator (URL) and a proprietary resource  
13 locator;  
14           requesting an archive from a site specified by the archive locator, wherein  
15 the archive includes an operating system and desired software packages pre-  
16 configured for the remote computer;

17            downloading the archive to the remote computer from the site specified by  
18   the archive locator; and  
19            re-initializing the remote computer with the operating system and software  
20   packages in the archive.

1            10.    (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, the  
2   method further comprising loading the custom operating system into the remote  
3   computer during installation of the remote computer.

1            11.    (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, the  
2   method further comprising initializing the remote computer automatically with the  
3   custom operating system when power is applied to the remote computer.

1            12.    (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, the  
2   method further comprising:  
3              creating the archive;  
4              storing the archive at a site on the Internet accessible using the archive  
5   locator; and  
6              upon receiving an authorized request for the archive from the remote  
7   computer, downloading the archive to the remote computer.

1            13.    (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 12,  
2   wherein creating the archive involves:  
3              specifying the operating system and software packages to be included;  
4              installing the operating system and software packages on a configuration  
5   computer compatible with the remote computer;  
6              testing the operating system and software packages on the configuration  
7   computer;

8           creating a snapshot of the operating system and software packages;  
9           including a configuration file within the snapshot; and  
10          saving the snapshot at the site specified by the archive locator for  
11          download by the remote computer, wherein the snapshot including the  
12          configuration file is the archive.

1           14.     (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,  
2           wherein the configuration file includes data for configuring the operating system,  
3           network parameters, and software packages.

1           15.     (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9,  
2           wherein providing the archive locator includes providing the archive locator over  
3           the Internet.

1           16.     (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9,  
2           wherein providing the archive locator includes providing the archive locator in a  
3           command line parameter during initialization of the remote computer.

1           17.     (Currently amended) An apparatus that facilitates automated  
2           software installation on a remote computer over the Internet, comprising:  
3           an initializing mechanism that is configured to initialize the remote  
4           computer with a custom operating system, wherein the custom operating system  
5           allows access to the remote computer over the ~~Internet~~Internet, and wherein the  
6           custom operating system determines and provides functionality to determine the  
7           location of an archive, downloads ~~download~~ the archive, installs ~~install~~ the  
8           archived software and restarts ~~restart~~ the remote computer;

9           a providing mechanism that is configured to provide an archive locator to  
10 the remote computer, wherein the archive locator is one of a uniform resource  
11 locator (URL) and a proprietary resource locator;  
12           a requesting mechanism that is configured to request an archive from a site  
13 specified by the archive locator, wherein the archive includes an operating system  
14 and desired software packages pre-configured for the remote computer;  
15           a downloading mechanism that is configured to download the archive to  
16 the remote computer from the site specified by the archive locator; and  
17           a re-initializing mechanism that is configured to re-initialize the remote  
18 computer with the operating system and software packages in the archive.

1           18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a loading  
2 mechanism that is configured to load the custom operating system into the remote  
3 computer during installation of the remote computer.

1           19.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the initializing  
2 mechanism is further configured to initialize the remote computer automatically  
3 with the custom operating system when power is applied to the remote computer.

1           20.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:  
2           a creating mechanism that is configured to creating the archive;  
3           a storing mechanism that is configured to store the archive at a site on the  
4 Internet accessible using the archive locator; and  
5           wherein the downloading mechanism is further configured to download  
6 the archive to the remote computer.

1           21.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising:

2           a specifying mechanism that is configured to specify the operating system  
3 and software packages to be included;  
4           an installing mechanism that is configured to install the operating system  
5 and software packages on a configuration computer compatible with the remote  
6 computer;  
7           a testing mechanism that is configured to test the operating system and  
8 software packages on the configuration computer;  
9           wherein the creating mechanism is further configured to create a snapshot  
10 of the operating system and software packages;  
11          an including mechanism that is configured to include a configuration file  
12 within the snapshot; and  
13          a saving mechanism that is configured to save the snapshot at the site  
14 specified by the archive locator for download by the remote computer, wherein the  
15 snapshot including the configuration file is the archive.

1           22.     (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the configuration  
2 file includes data for configuring the operating system, network parameters, and  
3 software packages.

1           23.     (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein providing the  
2 archive locator includes providing the archive locator over the Internet.

1           24.     (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein providing the  
2 archive locator includes providing the archive locator in a command line  
3 parameter during initialization of the remote computer.